

To: Ancram Town Board
From: Art Bassin
Date: April 7, 2021
Supervisor's Report



1. Financial Report – March was a normal month financially.

2. American Rescue Plan – The town is scheduled to receive \$160,000 under this program-half in June 2021 and half in June 2022. The money will come through the state. The money can apparently be used to replace funds lost due to covid, and for certain infrastructure investments like broadband, but further clarification will probably be available before we get the first installment of the funds. Once we are more familiar with what the funds can be used for, the Town Board can discuss and decide on the use of the money.

3. Marijuana Law – The Town Board has until the end of the year to decide if we want to opt out of the provision of this law that allows the sale of marijuana in town through retail dispensaries. If we decide to opt out it would be done by passing a local law subject to a permissive referendum. If we decide to opt in, we do not need to take any additional action, but we may have to add marijuana dispensaries to the use table in the Zoning Law.

4. Local Law #1 of 2021 – Solar – We will consider a negative declaration under SEQRA for this local law and then consider LL# 1 of 2021 for adoption. There were no additional written comments submitted about this proposed local law during the public hearing extension period ending April 12, 2021.

5. 82/7 Intersection Issues – Members of the Ancram Hamlet Planning Group met with Assembly Member Didi Barrett and Mike Duval from NYS DOT to talk about what could be done to improve traffic safety at the 82/7 intersection in Ancram. Ancram Hamlet Planning Group chair Jay Corcoran will update us on that meeting.

6. Camp/Pool Planning – Camp and Pool planning got started this week. No new guidance from NYS or the County yet, and if guidance does not change from last year, the Camp/Pool Board is recommending we do not open the camp or pool this year. The plan is to do all pool maintenance necessary to open the pool this summer by early July, but to make a final decision on whether or not to open the camp and pool no later than June 1. If we do decide to open, we may have problems finding lifeguards and counselors.

7. Building Department – The Building Department collected over \$11,100 in fees in March, reflecting the busiest month we have ever had. ZEO/CEO Ed Ferratto has added a third day to his schedule to keep up with the pace of work, and I am recommending that we increase his compensation to reflect this additional workload and the extra hours Ed is putting in. Marie McDermott is also working additional hours, and is being compensated accordingly.

8. Biden Flag on 82 – There have been about a dozen complaints about the offensive language on the Biden flag on 82 in Ancram. The language is protected by the first amendment so the Town cannot require the flag to be removed.